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APPROVED BY: AF: GEMOOSE

AF/C: AXRENDER

AF/C: RJFENDRICK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL MOPS PREF EFIN EAID OVIP RW US

SUBJECT: HABYARIMANA WORKING VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND MEETING WITH
A/S MOOSE

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: HARRY R. MELONE
DATE/CASE ID: 10 APR 2003 199900737

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2. SUMMARY. PRESIDENT JUVENAL HABYARIMANA MADE A PRIVATE WORKING VISIT TO WASHINGTON OCTOBER 7-9 TO THANK THE U.S. FOR ITS ASSISTANCE IN THE RWANDAN PEACE PROCESS AND TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE ACCORDS AND HELP WITH THE COUNTRY'S STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PROBLEMS. HABYARIMANA MET WITH THE SECRETARY (SEPTEL), AF A/S MOOSE, DOD USD(P) WISNER (SEPTEL), AND USAID ACTING DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR MICHEL (SEPTEL), AND ALSO SAW THE WORLD BANK AND THE IMF. A/S MOOSE CONGRATULATED HABYARIMANA FOR THE PEACE ACCORD AND ASSURED THE PRESIDENT OF OUR CONTINUED SUPPORT. THE RWANDAN PRESIDENT AND A/S MOOSE AGREED ON THE NEED FOR RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF UN PEACEKEEPERS, AND HABYARIMANA REITERATED HIS DESIRE FOR FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN THE UN FORCE. THE PRESIDENT REVIEWED THE STATUS OF THE REFUGEE REPATRIATION PROGRAM. HABYARIMANA NOTED THAT HE HAD MET BRIEFLY WITH

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KEVIN CALLWOOD OF ATLANTIC TELE-NETWORK (ATN), AND A/S MOOSE EXPRESSED HIS CONFIDENCE THAT THE GOR WILL GIVE APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION TO ATN'S INTEREST IN INVESTING IN RWANDA'S TELEPHONE SYSTEM. END SUMMARY TL

PEACE PROCESS AND PEACEKEEPERS PF

3. HABYARIMANA MET WITH A/S MOOSE ON OCTOBER 8, ACCOMPANIED BY MINISTER OF PLAN NGIRABATWARE, AMBASSADOR UWIMANA, AND PRESIDENTIAL ADVISERS JEAN-MARIE MVULIRENANDE AND MONIQUE MUKAMANZI. AF/C DIRECTOR ARLENE RENDER AND RWANDA DESKOFF KEVIN AISTON ALSO ATTENDED. HABYARIMANA THANKED THE U.S. FOR ASSISTING IN THE PEACE TALKS AND ASKED FOR OUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE ACCORDS, INCLUDING ASSISTANCE WITH DEMOBILIZATION, RESETTLEMENT OF THE DISPLACED, AND REFUGEE REPATRIATION. A/S MOOSE CONGRATULATED THE RWANDAN PRESIDENT FOR REACHING A PEACE ACCORD AFTER LENGTHY AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS AND SAID WE WERE HAPPY TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OFFER OUR ASSISTANCE. HE ADDED THAT WE UNDERSTAND THE PEACE ACCORDS ARE ONLY A BEGINNING AND THAT MUCH WORK LIES AHEAD. MOOSE ASSURED HABYARIMANA OF OUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND NOTED THAT HE HAD JUST MET WITH BURUNDI PRESIDENT NDADAYE, WHO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUCCESS OF THE PEACE PROCESS TO REGIONAL STABILITY.

4. MOOSE POINTED TO OUR RECENT VOTE IN FAVOR OF A UN PEACEKEEPING MISSION AND EXPRESSED OUR SUPPORT FOR RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF PEACEKEEPERS. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD SPOKEN AT LENGTH WITH GENERAL DALLAIRE AND WAS VERY IMPRESSED

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WITH BOTH HIS EXPERIENCE AND HIS RECOMMENDATIONS
CONCERNING RWANDA'S PEACEKEEPING NEEDS. HABYARIMANA
ASSURED A/S MOOSE THAT BOTH SIDES ARE COMMITTED TO THE
PEACE PROCESS AND HE EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THE FIRST
CONTINGENT OF PEACEKEEPERS WOULD ARRIVE SOON, PERHAPS
WITHIN ONE OR TWO MONTHS. HE REVIEWED THE LIST OF
COUNTRIES WHICH MAY BE CONTRIBUTING TROOPS (BELGIUM,
EGYPT, TUNISIA, MOROCCO, ALGERIA) AND REITERATED HIS HOPE
THAT FRANCE WOULD ALSO PARTICIPATE TO BALANCE OUT THE
BELGIAN PRESENCE. HABYARIMANA SAID THAT HE IS TRYING TO
PERSUADE THE RPF THAT A CONTINUED FRENCH PRESENCE IS
ACCEPTABLE, AS LONG AS THE FORCE IS UNDER UN COMMAND.

REFUGEES

5. TURNING TO THE REFUGEE PROBLEM, HABYARIMANA SAID THAT
THE UNHCR SHOULD BE PUSHING FOR A ROUND TABLE TO RAISE
FUNDS NOW THAT THE PEACE ACCORDS ARE SIGNED. HE ADDED
THAT UNHCR SHOULD CONSULT WITH RWANDA'S NEIGHBORS AND
TAKE AN INVENTORY OF THE WHOLE REGION TO DETERMINE
EXACTLY WHAT RESOURCES WILL BE NEEDED TO RESOLVE THE
REGIONAL REFUGEE PROBLEM. HABYARIMANA CONFIRMED THAT THE
GOR IS NOW ISSUING PASSPORTS TO ALL RWANDAN REFUGEES WHO
WANT THEM. HOWEVER, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS DID NOT
ADDRESS THE REAL PROBLEM, WHICH IS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE
TO THE REFUGEES SO THEY CAN RETURN AND SUCCESSFULLY
RESETTLE IN RWANDA. HE ALSO NOTED THAT HE HAD MET WITH
THE BURUNDI PRESIDENT THE PREVIOUS EVENING AND BOTH SIDES
REAFFIRMED THE REFUGEES' RIGHT TO RETURN OR TO SETTLE
PERMANENTLY IN THE HOST COUNTRY. A/S MOOSE INFORMED

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HABYARIMANA THAT HE HAD MET WITH THE UNHCR REP FOR AFRICA
WHILE IN TOKYO AND DISCUSSED THE NEED TO ASSIST IN RAPID
REPATRIATION AND RESETTLEMENT OF THE LARGE REGIONAL
REFUGEE POPULATION.

STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT

6. HABYARIMANA REVIEWED THE DIFFICULTIES RWANDA HAS
EXPERIENCED MEETING THE CONDITIONS OF ITS STRUCTURAL
ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM AND NOTED THE SERIOUS FOREIGN CURRENCY

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SHORTAGE FACED BY THE COUNTRY. HE SAID THAT THE IMF AND WORLD BANK WOULD BE SENDING A DELEGATION TO KIGALI TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE UNDER THE CURRENT SAP AND BEGIN PREPARATIONS FOR THE NEXT SAP. THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE BANK AND FUND WOULD SIMPLY "DECIDE BY COMPUTER" WITHOUT TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE UNIQUE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS FACED BY RWANDA. A/S MOOSE SAID THAT HE HAD TOLD WORLD BANK VP JAYCOX IN TOKYO THAT RWANDA NEEDED SPECIAL HELP AND HE FOUND THAT JAYCOX HAD A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF RWANDA'S UNIQUE PROBLEMS. HE ASSURED THE RWANDAN PRESIDENT THAT WE WILL CONTINUE THESE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE BANK AND URGED HABYARIMANA TO KEEP US INFORMED ON RWANDA'S TALKS WITH THE BANK AND THE FUND.

ATN AND RWANDATEL

7. HABYARIMANA EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN RWANDA AND NOTED THAT HE HAD TALKED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY WHILE IN THE
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U.S., INCLUDING KEVIN CALLWOOD OF ATLANTIC TELE-NETWORK (ATN). A/S MOOSE SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT ATN WAS INTERESTED IN INVESTING IN RWANDATEL, THE COUNTRY'S TELEPHONE SYSTEM. HE NOTED THAT AMERICAN COMPANIES HAVE A SPECIAL EXPERTISE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SAID THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE GOR WOULD GIVE ATN'S BID APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION.
CHRISTOPHER

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